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**BOX AF**

*Maye*  
**MS AF**  
**REPLY UNDER**  
**37 C. F. R. § 1.116**  
**EXPEDITED PROCEDURE**  
**EXAMINING GROUP 1714**

*AF*  
*1714*  
Patent 0649-0777P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Akira SAITO et al                      Conf: 4751  
Appl. No.: 09/856,845                      Group: 1714  
Filed: May 25, 2001                      Examiner: Katarzyna Wyrozebski Lee  
For: RUBBER COMPOSITIONS

REPLY AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

**MS AF**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated 10/21/2003, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This reply includes:

Claim Amendments begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

Exhibits are attached at page 16 of this paper.